ALAN CRANSTON
CALIFORNIA

SCS CC 2 of 2

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 29, 1978

Honorable Cyrus R. Vance
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

SCS

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Dear Secretary Vance:

Mr. Timothy O. Stoen has visited my office concerning five-year-old John Victor Stoen, who at present is being held on the Peoples's Temple farm in Guyana.

Mr. Stoen, and his wife, Grace, once members of the Temple have left this church. They have obtained a California court order, to regain custody of this boy. Mr. Stoen's name is on the child's birth certificate.

The head of the Church is contesting the removal of the child. The Guyanese Government conducted a hearing but the American Consul, I am advised, was not admitted. I believe the child has not appeared before the Judge.

If it is determined that the case Mr. Stoen presents is based on fact and he is entitled to representation, perhaps an expression of interest in the case to the Prime Minister of Guyana, as he requests, might be useful to the plight of Mr. and Mrs. Stoen, who seek the return of the child to their home and this country.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Alan Cranston

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1